Servant of God
WELL DONE



California Southern Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
Church of God in Christ

BISHOP
EDDIE VIRGIL MCGEE

December 20, 1932 — *July 21, 2021*

The Farewell Celebration
for

Bishop Eddie Virgil McGee

Auxiliary Bishop, California Southern Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

Wednesday, the Eleventh day of August
Eleven O'Clock in the Morning
Two Thousand Twenty One
Anno Domini

St. John Missionary Baptist Church

1401 East Brundage Lane
Bakersfield, California 93307
Dr. Antonio M. Alfred, Pastor

OFFICIANT

The Right Reverend Roger Thomas, Jurisdictional Prelate
California Southern Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop
EDDIE VIRGIL MCGEE

Bishop Eddie Virgil McGee was born on December 20, 1932, in Wewoka, Oklahoma to the Godly parents; Deacon Eugene and Pearl Meeks-McGee. At the tender age of 2 years old, his father passed away so he, his mother, and his (3) sisters - Laura, Annie, and Ruth returned to Bakersfield, California where his mother's family resided. His father's parents; Eddie Virgil McGee and Annie Gardner-McGee and their only daughter; Rosie soon moved to Bakersfield to be near their grandchildren.

When he came to realize his being; he was born into the Church of God in Christ. He began playing the guitar by watching his grandfather, Virgil Meeks, and started playing the piano at the age of 6 years old and served faithfully at the "O" Street (now known as Trinity Temple Chapel) under the leadership of the late Elder Horace Douglas.

He attended elementary school at Fremont and McKinley School; Junior High at Emerson and graduated with Honors at Kern Union High/Bakersfield High School in 1949 (Once a Driller Always a Driller) and Bakersfield Jr. College in 1951. Dr. McGee was the first to start in Bakersfield the International Seminary headquarters in Orlando, Florida with (28) Students to Graduate with their AA Degree in Theology. In 1985, he received his BS in Theology and his Honorary Doctorate Degree from Trinity Hall College and Seminary in October 1989. His heart was made happy and forever grateful to be consecrated as an Auxiliary Bishop of the Church of God in Christ at the Holy Convocation in St. Louis, MO in November of 2015.

At a young age, he would travel throughout the rural areas surrounding Bakersfield helping to win souls by singing and playing the guitar with his uncle, Elder Ruben C. Meeks, Sr., and assisted with founding several COGIC churches in the Towns of Arvin, Shafter, Wasco, and Delano, California. When he was 12 years old, Capitol Records recorded him singing "Beams of Heaven" and wanted to put him on a contract but his mother did not want the "World" to captivate his Singing Gill and would not Sign the Contract.

At the age of 16 years old, at a State Youth Congress in Los Angeles, CA, a young lady with beautiful "Shirley Temple curls" caught his eye and heart as she was marching in service with the youth choir; the Miss Blanche Delores Gibson. God would have it to be that her parents would eventually move to Bakersfield and their future together began. On February 22, 1953, on a Sunday afternoon, they became Mr. and Mrs. Eddie McGee. This Union of Love brought forth (6) children, Mary Delores, Edward Virgil, Kelvin Brian, Dwight Dean, Carlton Trent, and Patrick Ryan. This love story would last (68) years until he closed his eyes in eternal sleep.

Bishop McGee served his Country in the United States Army from February 24, 1953 (2 days after his wedding) and served as a Medic in the Korean Conflict and was Honorably discharged in February 1955 and was also called to the Ministry while serving his Country. Twenty-two soldiers were saved. Once he returned to the States, he worked for the United States Postal Service.

Learning the Electrical Trade from his Uncle Ruben; Bishop McGee was the First Black Electrical Contractor in the Signal Dept. for the City of Bakersfield for (13) years. He also worked for AC Electric Company being one of the foreman on the Hwy. 58 extension in the State of California. He started his own business, McGee Electric in 1976 until 1989. Bishop McGee was also involved in Many Civic and Community Organizations; Police Liaison for the City of Bakersfield, Bakersfield City School District, Teen Challenge, Interdenominational Elders Council of Bakersfield, and Stop the Gang Violence.

He served the church as the Regional Music President for Northern California First Jurisdiction under the leadership of the late Bishop E.B. Stewart. After working diligently in the Music and Youth Dept., he helped in the building of Saints Memorial Church of God in Christ, and in May 1964 he was Installed as a pastor of this great church. Because of his love for the youth, every Sunday morning he would drive the "Big Pale Pink Bus" throughout the town and pick up the youth to bring to them to Sunday School. He was often "teased" about it, but he would say, "Children become youth, and youth become adults, and they will give Jesus to their Families."

Bishop McGee was part of the Conception of the California Valley Jurisdiction that was started in 1970. He served faithfully under the leadership of the late Bishop Warren S. Wilson. He served as State Music President, State Youth President, State Financial Secretary, Chairman of Finance, Chairman of the Elder's Council, and Administrative Assistant. Upon the leadership of Bishop Samuel Doyle, was appointed Senior Pastor of the California Valley Jurisdiction. He served as the Superintendent of the San Joaquin District (the Mother District in Bakersfield) for over 25 Years.

Bishop McGee went into Eternal Rest on the evening of Wednesday, July 21, 2021. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sisters, and his oldest son, Edward Virgil McGee, and many of his cousins and other beloved family. Those to continue his Legacy is his devoted wife in Love and Ministry for 68 years. Mo. Blanche D. McGee (Emeritus Supervisor of Women/California Valley Jurisdiction), His Only Daughter; Evangelist Mary McGee; (4) Sons — Pastor Kelvin (Pamela) McGee, Bro. Dwight (Mary W.) McGee, Bro. Carlton Trent McGee, and Min. Patrick McGee (13) Grandchildren, (5) Great-Grandchildren, and (1) Great-Grandchild. He leaves one Brother-in-Law; Elder Rufus Nash, Nieces and Nephews (5+) Generations of Cousins, The Saints Memorial Church Family whom he loved so much, and the brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ.

Order of Homegoing Celebration

† Where Indicated Please Stand

Presiding

QUIET MOMENTS

†THE PROCESSIONAL ..... The Right Reverend Roger Thomas
Jurisdictional Prelate, California Southern Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

The Deputy Adjutant Generals
The General Board
The Chairman of the General Assembly
The Board of Bishops
The McGee Family

THE SEALING OF THE BIER..... Deputy Adjutant General Herman Platt

†THE HYMN OF COMFORT ..... The Choir and Congregation
"We'll Understand Better By and By"

INVOCATION..... The Right Reverend Samuel L. Doyle
Jurisdictional Prelate, California Valley

†THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE ..... The Reverend George A. Martin Sr.
Isaiah 40:28-31

THE CHORAL RESPONSE ..... The Choir
"The Hallelujah Chant"

†THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE ..... The Reverend Johnny Lewis
I Corinthians 15:51-58

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH..... The Reverend Earnest Bluitt

THE SELECTION..... The Jurisdictional Choir

THE NATIONAL TRIBUTES:

The Department of Women ..... Mother Barbara McCoo Lewis
General Supervisor, Los Angeles, California

The Board of Bishops.....The Right Reverend John Henry Sheard
Represented by Bishop Albert Galbraith

The General Church ..... The Right Reverend Joel Harley Lyles, Jr.
Represented by Deacon Develon Whitfield

THE SELECTION..... The Jurisdictional Choir

THE PRESENTATION OF THE BISHOP .....The Right Reverend Roger Thomas
Jurisdictional Prelate

SERMONIC SELECTION ..... The Jurisdictional Choir

THE EULOGY ..... The Right Reverend Jerry Wayne Macklin
1st Assistant Presiding Bishop
Church Of God In Christ, Inc.
Hayward, California

†THE RECESSIONAL

We'll Understand It Better By and By

VERSE 1
We are often tossed and driv'n
On the restless sea of time,
Somber skies and howling tempests
Oft succeed a bright sunshine,
In that land of perfect day,
When the mists have rolled away,
We will understand it better by and by.

Refrain
By and by when the morning comes,
All the saints of God are gathered home,
We'll tell the story how we've overcome:
For we'll understand it better by and by.

VERSE 2
We are often destitute
Of the things that life demands,
Want of food and want of shelter,
Thirsty hills and barren lands,
We are trusting in the Lord,
And according to His word,
We will understand it better by and by.

Refrain

VERSE 3
Trials dark on ev'ry hand,
And we cannot understand,
All the ways that God would lead us
To that blessed Promised Land;
But He guides us with His eye
And we'll follow till we die.
For we'll understand it better by and by.

Refrain

VERSE 4
Temptations, hidden snares
Often take us unawares,
And our hearts are made to bleed
For many a thoughtless word or deed,
And we wonder why the test
When we try to do our best.
But we'll understand it better by and by.

Charles Albert Tindley, 1851-1933
Arr. by F.A. Clark

The Affirmation of Faith

† Where Indicated, Please Stand

†The Leader: ***We affirm our faith in the Bible.***
†The Congregation: We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written word of God.

†The Leader: ***We affirm our faith in God.***
†The Congregation: We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

†The Leader: ***We affirm our faith in the Blessed Hope.***
†The Congregation: We believe in the blessed Hope, which is the rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ, at His return.

†The Leader: ***We affirm our faith in Repentance and Salvation.***
†The Congregation: We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

†The Leader: ***We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ.***
†The Congregation: We believe that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body in answer to believing prayer.

†The Leader: ***We affirm our faith in the Holy Ghost.***
†The Congregation: We believe that the baptism in the Holy Ghost, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it.

†The Leader: ***We affirm our faith in Sanctification.***
†The Congregation: We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling, the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world.
Amen.

Ministry of Comfort Entrusted to

Greenlawn Funeral Home Southwest
2739 Panama Lane Bakersfield
Bakersfield, California 93313
Phone: (661) 834-8820

Interment

Greenlawn Southwest Cemetery
2739 Panama Lane Bakersfield
Bakersfield, California 93313
Phone: (661) 834-8820

Honorary Pallbearers

The Board of Bishops
Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

Active Pallbearers

Superintendents, Pastors and Elders
California Southern Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Acknowledgement

The Family of the late Bishop Eddie Virgil McGee wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation, the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers, and other expressions of kindness and concerns evidenced in thought and deed.

The Presidium

THE MOST REVEREND JOHN DREW SHEARD, *Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle*
The Right Reverend Jerry Wayne Macklin, *First Assistant Presiding Bishop*
The Right Reverend Lawrence Marcellus Wooten, *Second Assistant Presiding Bishop*
The Right Reverend Brandon Burdett Porter, *Secretary*
The Right Reverend Michael Eugene Hill, *Sr. Assistant Secretary*
The Right Reverend Sedgwick Daniels
The Right Reverend Darrell Lynn Hines
The Right Reverend Prince Earl William Bryant, Sr.
The Right Reverend David Allen Hall, Sr.
The Right Reverend Malcolm Winslow Coby
The Right Reverend Charles Henry McClelland

The General Board Members, Emeritus

The Right Reverend Charles Edward Blake, Sr., Presiding Bishop Emeritus
The Right Reverend Roy Lawrence Hailey Winbush

The General Secretary

The Right Reverend Joel Harley Lyles, Jr.

The Board of Bishops

The Right Reverend John Henry Sheard, *Chairman*
The Right Reverend Albert Galbraith, Jr., *First Vice Chairman*
The Right Reverend Roger Lee Jones, *Second Vice Chairman*
The Right Reverend William Henry Watson, III, *Secretary*
The Right Reverend Adrian Dumarr Williams, *Assistant Secretary*

The National Adjutancy

The Right Reverend Dickerson L.S. Wells, *Adjutant General*
The Reverend Glenn McKinney, *Deputy Adjutant General*
The Reverend Herman Platt, *Deputy Adjutant General*
The Reverend John Smith, *Deputy Adjutant General*
The Reverend Nickolus C. South, *Scribe*
The Reverend Kiemba Knowlin, *Adjutant Apostolic*


THE SEAL OF THE BISHOP
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

THE BISHOP
CHURCH
GOD IN CHRIST